

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending.

Claims 2-4, 6-9, 12, and 14-21 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 5, 10, 11 and 13 are rejected.

The office action indicates that claims 1, 5, 10-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hudgens et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,737,739. This rejection has been rendered moot by the amendments above to claims 1 and 13.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite coatings that are halogen-free.

In contrast, Hudgens et al. disclose the presence of residual halogens in their coatings. They specifically require the use of halogenated precursors (e.g. fluorides and chlorides of silicon, such as SiF₄). See, for example, col. 12, col. 14-15; and col. 17, line 19.

Thus Hudgens et al. do not teach or suggest the coatings of amended claims 1 and 13. Accordingly, amended claims 1 and 13 should be allowed over Hudgens et al.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the '102 rejections and issue a notice of allowability. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any issues that remain.